

Northern Regional Police Dept. names officer of the year



Liz Evans Scolforo, 505-5429/@LizScolforoYD 4:26 p.m. EST February 18, 2016



(Photo: Submitted)

At 25 years old, Officer Noah Potteiger has earned an honor many police officers don't achieve during an entire career.

Northern York County Regional Police named Potteiger its 2015 officer of the year. He was presented with the achievement award Tuesday at the department's board of commissioners meeting.

"He's been doing a wonderful job for us," Chief Mark Bentzel said. "And he just continues to grow as a police officer, getting better all the time."

Potteiger is adept at taking the skills he's learned and using them to become a better officer, according to the chief.

"He's become an excellent communicator and problem-solver," Bentzel said. "The more he learns ... the better his production. We have quite a few young (officers) who are really doing a tremendous job for us."

Accomplishments: In the past year, Potteiger handled 721 general incidents, investigated 67 traffic crashes, filed 44 felony and misdemeanor charges and 40 summary non-traffic violations, according to Potteiger's award citation. He also issued 492 traffic citations and pulled over an additional 292 drivers for various offenses.

Potteiger drove more than 14,000 miles in the past year in all types of weather and was accident-free, police said.

"Clearly, your past 12 months were busy and productive," the citation states. "Although you have just completed your third year (at the department), your personnel file has several commendations from the public and other departments."

Potteiger is self-motivated and goal-oriented, requires minimal supervision to complete his daily workload and uses the training he's received to search for impaired drivers, police said.

'Trusted position': He was chosen to be trained to use a computerized voice-stress analyzer, which is not dissimilar to a polygraph lie-detector test.

"That's a very trusted position," Bentzel said.

A Lancaster County native, Potteiger graduated from Ephrata High School in 2009, and from York Technical Institute in 2012 with a degree in criminal justice, police said. He then graduated in November 2012 from the Harrisburg Area Community College Police Academy.

He became a Northern Regional officer in January 2013.

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